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Date April 29, 2009

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From Ryan McCarthy

Re Interview Agenda and Proposed Claim Amendments
Application No.: 10/659,056
Our Ref.: 13913-0083001

Number of pages including this page 3

Message Examiner Dao,

Please see the attached Interview Agenda and Proposed Claim Amendments.

Kind Regards,

Ryan McCarthy

AGENDA - EXAMINER INTERVIEW
U.S. App. No. 10/659,056
Our Ref. 13913-0083001
Date: April 30, 2009, 3PM EST (2PM CST)

I. Review proposed claim amendments (attached)

II. Discuss references in view of proposed claim amendments:

a) SAML

i) SAML is not relevant:

- SAML provides a framework for exchanging security information between a requestor and a SAML authority.
- SAML is not directed to selectively activating checkpoints that are embedded within an executable computer program.
- Consequently, several of the claim features are absent from SAML.

b) Dwyer

i) Provides a program that is operable in 3 modes:

- mode 1 = assertion testing is turned ON;
- mode 2 = assertion testing is turned OFF; and
- mode 3 = assertion testing in ON, but only to extent that performance is not significantly affected.

ii) Dwyer fails to disclose claim features that are also absent from SAML.

III. Confirm claim amendments define over the currently cited references.

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS
U.S. App. No. 10/659,056
Our Ref. 13913-0083001

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer readable medium~~ machine-readable storage device encoded with a computer program comprising instructions that, when executed, operate to cause a computer to perform operations comprising:

establishing a plurality of checkpoints in a computer program, the computer program having a program structure, each checkpoint in the plurality of checkpoints including an assertion statement that tests whether a specified condition is true, and a breakpoint that halts execution of the computer program, the assertion statement including an argument to activate logging with programmer-controlled granularity, the argument being used to determine whether to update a log entry when the assertion statement fails;

assigning each checkpoint in the plurality of checkpoints to a checkpoint group of a plurality of checkpoint groups ~~without regard to the program structure of the computer program~~, the assignment of each checkpoint to ~~a~~ the checkpoint group being specified in ~~the~~ a statement defining the respective checkpoint, and each checkpoint group including a respective identification;

associating each checkpoint group with one of a plurality of activation variants that indicates a behavior based on a result of the assertion statement, wherein checkpoint groups associated with an activation variant behave in accordance with the activation variant;

selectively activating at least one checkpoint group based on the respective identification;

indicating the activation variant of the plurality of activation variants, in accordance with the at least one checkpoint group is to behave; and

executing the computer program, wherein only the at least one checkpoint group of the computer program is executed, and a remainder of the plurality of checkpoint groups, if any, is not executed

~~executing a non-activatable checkpoints; and~~

~~selectively executing at least one checkpoint of the plurality of checkpoints based on an activation status of the checkpoint group~~.